Public facilities at certain stations

3141. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that booking offices and other facilities are existing at all the railway stations on the line from Panvel to Mumbai Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus *via* Deeva Station and Kalamboli, Narivali and Nilje stations, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the details of other public facilities; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and when such facilities are expected to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Booking Offices and other facilities are available except Dativali station between Panvel and Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus Mumbai *via* Diva. There is no station named "Narivali".

(b) and (c) Booking office is not provided at Dativali station as this station is not opened for passenger traffic and all minimum passenger amenities as per norms have been provided at all stations between Panvel and Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus Mumbai *via* Diva.

Regular train service from Panvel to Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus

3142. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been approached by "Maharashtra Jansewa Samiti" for a regular train service from Panvel to Mumbai Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus *via* Deeva;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when regular train service is expected to be introduced for the benefit and convenience of the common public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Representation of "Maharashtra Jansewa Samiti" regarding introduction of train from Panvel to Mumbai Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus *via* Diva have been received.

(c) Introduction of a train from Panvel to Mumbai Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus has not been found operationally feasible.

Mobile telephone In running trains

3143. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to introduce mobile telephone facility in the running trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to provide Mobile Train Radio Communication (MTRC) between Driver and Guard of a running train Station Master, field maintenance staff and control office on category 'A', 'B' & 'C routes, on Indian Railways. MTRC system would not only enhance safety in train operations but would also help maintenance staff along the railway track. Eight (8) Works for provision of MTRC on a total of 3200 Route Kilometres have already been sanctioned on 5 zonal railways ***viz.*** Eastern, East Central Northern, Northeast Frontier and North Central Railways for execution.

(c) Does not arise.

Increasing the quota of appointment on compassionate ground

†3144. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a suggestion to increase the quota of appointment on compassionate ground from maximum five per cent to maximum ten per cent out of the direct recruitment quota;

(b) if so, by when final decision would be taken in this regard; and

(c) what are the reasons for delay in taking decisions in this regard?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.